

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

## TRIO Day in Rhode Island February 24-25, 2011

WHEREAS, National TRIO Day focuses on the needs of disadvantaged young people and adults aspiring to improve their lives; and

WHEREAS, TRIO programs were established in the mid-1960s as a national educational initiative to increase access to, and success in, postsecondary education for disadvantaged, traditionally underserved students; and

WHEREAS, TRIO programs serve, assist and motivate students to progress successfully from middle school to post-baccalaureate levels; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island has 5 TRIO programs hosted at 2 institutions of higher education, with annual funding of more than \$2,500,000.00; and

WHEREAS, these programs serve residents statewide, helping nearly 5,500 low-income students each year, and are joined by GEAR UP and other educational opportunity programs, which help hundreds of additional students to succeed in their pursuit of higher education by overcoming academic challenges and class, social and cultural barriers; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim February 24-25, 2011 as TRIO Day in Rhode Island and urge all citizens to recognize and support the work of our TRIO, GEAR UP and other educational opportunity programs.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 34<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2011

Lincoln D. Chafee Governor